

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENTI 02915 301247Z

53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 DPW-01 IO-10 /088 W

----- 107104

R 301007Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3566

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 2915

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: START OF ROYAL VISIT TO PATHET LAO ZONE

REFS: A) VIENTIANE 2289 (NOTAL)

B) VIENTIANE 1741

1. AFTER A FEW HOURS' DELAY BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER AT SAM NEUA, THEIR MAJESTIES THE KING AND QUEEN ARRIVED AT THE PATHET LAO CAPITAL AROUND MID-DAY APRIL 28 TO BEGIN THEIR VISIT TO THE PATHET LAO-CONTROLLED ZONE. THE KING WAS ACCOMPANIED INTER ALIA BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS PHOUMI VONGVICHIT (PL) AND LEUAM INSIXIENGMAI (VS), INTERIOR MINISTER PHENG PHONGSAVAN (VS), ECONOMY MINISTER SOTH PHETRASY (PL) AND MINISTER OF RELIGION MAHA KOU SOUVANNAMETHI (PL). HE WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL AT SAM NEUA BY THE MOST SENIOR PATHET LAO LEADERS, INCLUDING KAYSON PHOMVIHAN, NOUHAK PHOUMSAVAN AND PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG.

2. USAID AREA COORDINATOR AT LUANG PRABANG REPORTS THAT  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENTI 02915 301247Z

NUMEROUS PGNU OFFICIALS AND OTHER RESIDENTS THERE ARE

FOLLOWING RADIO PATHET LAO ACCOUNTS OF THE VISIT AND ARE PLEASED BY WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD.

3. THEY PARTICULARLY MENTION USE OF LAO NATIONAL ANTHEM DURING RECEPTION CEREMONIES AND REPORTEDLY WIDESPREAD DISPLAY OF NATIONAL FLAGS, HUNDREDS OF WHICH WERE BROUGHT IN FROM LUANG PRABANG FOR THE OCCASION. ALSO THEY NOTE THAT SOUPHANOUVONG'S SPEECH AT THE ARRIVAL CEREMONY WAS SIGNIFICANTLY TEMPERED; HE REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO THE PL ZONE AS "THIS SIDE OF THE BOUNDARY MARKER" RATHER THAN THE USUAL "LIBERATED ZONE." HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE "KINGDOM OF LAOS" RATHER THAN THE PL'S NARMAL "COUNTRY OF LAOS." THE KING'S REMARKS WERE BRIEF, BUT SOURCES IN LUANG PRABANG BELIEVE THAT EMOTIONS RAN HIGH DURING THE ENTIRE CEREMONY.

3. A PATHET LAO BROADCAST ON APRIL 28 (FBIS BKK 281356) IN ANTICIPATION OF KING'S ARRIVAL REFERRED TO HIS MAJESTY IN POSITIVE TERMS, STATING THAT: "ALL THE ROYAL ACTIVITIES OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING ARE AIMED AT MAINTAINING THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND ALL THE LAO PEOPLE. HIS ACTIVITIES HAVE ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE AND TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NATIONAL CONCORD IN OUR COUNTRYMZ

4. COMMENT: THE OPENING PHASE OF THE VISIT SUGGESTS THAT BOTH THE KING AND HIS HOSTS ARE INDEED TRYING TO MAKE THE OCCASION A CONCRETE STEP TOWARD NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. AS NOTED IN REF B, HOWEVER, WE EXPECT THAT PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG WILL BE THE MAJOR BENEFICIARY OF THE VISIT. IT IS TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER THE ROYAL VISIT WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THE FESTERING SITUATION AT SALA PHOU KHOUN, BUT NO SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ACTION HAS BEEN REPORTED THERE SINCE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 28.

CHAPMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975VIENTI02915  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750151-0790  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975041/aaaaabfd.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 VIENTIANE 2289  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** START OF ROYAL VISIT TO PATHET LAO ZONE  
**TAGS:** PINT, LA, (SAVANG VATTHANA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006